

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Garry Boston at 1:30 p.m. on April 3, 2002 in Room 210, Memorial Hall

All members were present except: Representative Nancy Kirk, Excused
Representative Tricia Lightner, Excused
Representative Peggy Palmer, Excused
Representative Dale Swenson, Excused
Representative Jonathan Wells, Excused

Committee staff present: Dr. Bill Wolff, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Renea Jefferies, Revisor of Statute's Office
June Evans, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dale Scott, Galena, Health Freedom Association
Betty Russell, nutritionist
Clint Miller, National and state health freedom legislative advocate
Charlie Smith, Synergiscist, Crawford County
Robert Bates, Synergiscist, Crawford County

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

The Chairperson announced the hearing for opponents to **SB 610 - Naturopathic doctor licensure act** would be continued today. The House has to be back on the Floor at 2:30 p.m. today, therefore, there is not much time and will have to limit the time for testimony and questions again today.

The Chairperson announced a proposed amendment to **SB 610** had been distributed from Boyd Landry, The Coalition for Natural Health (Attachment 1).

Dale Scott, a herbalist, Galena, opposing **SB 610** said this is a very unhealthy bill. It is bad news for the profession and the consumer. This bill brings naturopathy into the arena of allopathic medicine. This does not leave any place for those who have been traditional naturopaths for 10-20-30 years (Attachment 2).

Betty Russell, an opponent to **SB 610** stated alternative methods of health and wellness have impacted her life. She is in the midst of completing her doctorate in naturopathy from Trinity School of Natural Health. This school is not recognized in **SB 610** because it is not one attended by any of the naturopaths who are proponents of this bill. If this bill is passed, she and others would be forced to abandon the profession (Attachment 3).

Clinton R. Miller, Health Freedom Legislative Advocate, Statesville, NC, testified as an opponent to **SB 610**, stating the desire and intent of this bill was to exclude any well-qualified traditional naturopaths, herbalists, or nutritionists in Kansas from continuing to do what they have been doing no matter how long, or how successfully they have been doing it. The key word here is exclude. "Naturopathic medicine," or "naturopathy" means a system of health care practiced by naturopathic doctors for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of human health conditions, injuries and diseases, that uses education, natural medicines and therapies to support and stimulate the individual's intrinsic self-healing processes" (Attachment 4).

The Chairperson asked if Representative Welshimer's amendment took care of the herbalists?

Staff said it could be clearer.

CONTINUATION

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 210, Memorial Hall at 1:30 p.m. on April 3

Charles Smith, Crawford County, an opponent to **SB 610**, operates a wellness business based in Kansas. There are currently over 10,000 business associates in the business. This bill could single handedly redefine the definition of “free enterprise” in the state of Kansas (Attachment 5).

Robert L. Bates, Grandby, MO, testified as an opponent to **SB 610**, stating as an independent business owner with independent distributors in the state of Kansas, urge this bill be killed. It would be illegal unless a person was a “licensed naturopathic doctor” to provide education or information on food, food extracts, vitamins, minerals or any natural substances to stimulate an individual’s intrinsic self healing process (Attachment 6).

Gail Bates, Grandby, MO, testified as an opponent to **SB 610**, wanting freedom of choice and freedom to help others with alternative medicine which had made her well.

The Chairperson asked if the Minnesota Law would take care of the naturopathic doctors? No, the law is flawed.

Other testimony distributed: Janey Higginson, The Wellness Center, Parsons, (Attachment 7).

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. and the next meeting will be April 4.

CONTINUATION SHEET